

The Southeast News

VOLUME XIII, NUMBER 8

JUNE 1965

Church Builders Club Annual Meeting Held

The annual meeting of the Church Builders Club of the Southeast Convention was held during the regular 1965 meeting of the convention April 24-25.

The delegates to the meeting continued the present officers for another year and elected several new members to the board of trustees. The officers and trustees of the club are as follows:

President — Rev. Bill A. Hodnett
Vice-President — Rev. Warner D. Noles

Secretary — Rufus G. Obrecht
Treasurer — Rev. Warren Blankenhor

Board of Trustees
Class of 1966
Mr. Grover C. Dick, Montgomery, Ala.
Mr. J. F. Stinecipher, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Rev. H. Yancey Sears, Pearson, Ga.

Class of 1967
Rev. L. Floyd Carmack
Rev. Charles W. Bell
Mr. Fred D. Powell

Class of 1968
Mr. Millard Fuller, Montgomery
Rev. W. Walter Hall, Lanett, Ala.
Rev. William R. Winterbottom, Crossville, Tenn.

During the year approximately \$1,000 was received from members of the club in about 20 of the churches of the convention to be presented to the new church project in Huntsville, Ala.

In the hope of reaching a total of at least \$1500.00, the delegates voted to continue Huntsville as the project during the summer months.

The new project, beginning next fall, will be the new church in Montgomery, Ala.

The churches that have not engaged in a campaign for the club within their memberships are urged to do so in the months immediately ahead. The names of members and the \$5.00 dues (checks payable to "Church Builders Club) should be sent to the Southeast Convention office.

Lay Life And Work Banquet At Atlanta

On Saturday night of the annual sessions of the Southeast Convention the Women's Fellowship and the Churchmen's Fellowship sponsored a joint Lay Life and Work banquet.

The banquet was held in the lower auditorium of Central Congregational Church in Atlanta and was served by the Women's Fellowship of the church.

Dale E. Peake, a United Airlines executive from Salt Lake City, Utah, was the guest speaker for the occasion. Mr. Peake is a member of the board of directors of the Council for Lay Life and Work of the United Church. He serves as chairman of the committee for the National Churchmen's Fellowship.

Also present for the occasion was Mrs. F. C. Lester, who is secretary of the Council for Lay Life and Work with responsibility for the Southern Region.

Mrs. Edward L. Askren Jr. of Atlanta, the president, presided over the business meeting of the Women's Fellowship. The following officers were elected and chairmen appointed for the year 1965-66.

President — Mrs. Edward M. Brown, Atlanta, Ga.

Vice-President — Mrs. A. D. Harry, Lanett, Ala.

Secretary — Miss Dora Brackin, Headland, Ala.

Treasurer — Mrs. Arnold Slater, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Spiritual Life Chairman — Miss Frances Exum, Hampton, Ga.

Missionary Education Chairman — Miss Elizabeth Jenkins, Soddy, Tenn.

Witness Chairman — Mrs. John S. Owen, Birmingham, Ala.

Mr. Millard Fuller, Montgomery, Ala., presided over the meeting of the Churchmen's Fellowship.

Mr. Fuller led a panel discussion on "The Relevance of the Churchmen's Fellowship to Our Local Church Program."

Other participants on the panel were

Fifth General Synod Will Meet At Chicago

The Fifth General Synod of the United Church of Christ will be held June 30 - July 7 at the Palmer House, Chicago, Illinois.

The Seventeenth Biennial Meeting of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches will be held on the morning of June 30.

The Southeast Convention is entitled to two lay member delegates and one ministerial delegate to the synod. Mrs. Edward L. Askren, Jr., Atlanta, and Mr. Millard Fuller, Montgomery, are the two lay delegates. Rev. Harold C. Henderson, Montgomery, is the ministerial delegate.

Rev. Arnold Slater, Chattanooga, is a delegate ex officio as a member of the Executive Council of the United Church. Mrs. Slater will attend as a visitor.

Supt. James H. Lightbourne, Jr. is an associate delegate to the meetings.

Mr. Peake, Mr. Herschel Franks, president of the Churchmen's Fellowship, Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, and Rev. Harold D. Long, pastor of First Congregational Church, Birmingham, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Council for Lay Life and Work.

The organization voted to sponsor a scholarship fund to be used to help educate young people interested in full time church vocations.

The officers elected for the year 1965-66 were:

President — Millard Fuller, Montgomery, Ala.

Vice-President — Herschel Franks, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Secretary-Treasurer — William R. Green, Huntsville, Ala.

The officers of the two fellowship groups, plus Mrs. Edward L. Askren, Jr. and W. Pressley Ingram of Birmingham, Ala., make up the convention committee on Lay Life and Work. W. Pressley Ingram, who is a member of the board of directors of the Council for Lay Life and Work, is chairman of the committee.

United Church Board For World Ministries Announces Cooperation With United Christian Missionary Society

A plan was announced recently to establish a joint working relationship between two of the oldest and most active Protestant overseas missionary agencies, the United Church Board for World Ministries (United Church of Christ) and the division of world mission of the United Christian Missionary Society of the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ).

"This action may logically lead to union of the two boards," said the Rev. Dr. Alford Carleton, New York, executive vice-president of the United Church Board of World Ministries.

The directors of the United Church Board voted unanimously:

"To inform the United Christian Missionary Society of the willingness of this Board, in the interests of the effectiveness of the work and within the limits of its resources, to enter with the Division of World Mission into joint staffing arrangements, joint consideration of one response to large emergency appeals, agreements whereby one board may act for both in specific situations, and in general discussions in anticipation of the effect upon the boards of the union now under discussion between the denominations."

The United Christian Missionary Society will vote on the proposal on June 15, Dr. Carleton said in announcing the vote of his organization. The new working relations cannot begin until the plan is adopted by both agencies.

The United Church Board for World Ministries, under its charter and its constitutional relationship with the United Church of Christ, is free to enter into working relationships and even merger with other overseas missionary agencies by vote of its directors.

Dr. Carleton released a joint statement by himself and the Rev. Dr. Virgil Sly, Indianapolis, president of the United Christian Missionary Society, which stated in part, "One of the first considerations will be to deploy our always-too-limited resources of missionaries and money to make the most imaginative, most constructive, and most efficient possible use of them in carrying on the mission of Christ to which we are committed."

The two agencies will "institute joint staffing arrangements as rapidly as possible," they reported. Two major objectives will be to prevent duplication of staff skills in particular fields

of work and to use specialists, such as teachers, doctors, social workers and theologians, with maximum efficiency.

The United Christian Missionary Society has 224 missionaries at work in the following countries: Jamaica, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Paraguay, Republic of the Congo, Republic of South Africa, Basutoland, India, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Japan, Okinawa, Philippines.

The United Church Board of World Ministries has 540 missionaries working in: Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Mexico, Uruguay, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Angola, Ghana, Togo, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, India, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Taiwan, Indonesia, Philippines, Micronesia.

If the plan for joint work is adopted, the first formal action will be a conference between the staffs of the two boards, October 1-2, 1965, in New York City. Prior to that, the executives said, some staff members and missionaries of the two bodies will confer at the United Christian Missionary Society annual retreat at Crystal Lake, Mich., June 19 - July 6, and at the United Church Board's conference for furloughed missionaries at Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pa., August 29-September 2.

The two boards will "immediately begin to act jointly, under an agreed single policy, in responding to large emergency appeals such as "World Hunger" and the "ecumenical program for emergency in Africa" (a contemplated \$10,000,000 fund of the World Council of Churches), the two officers said.

The boards will enter into agreements whereby one of them may act for both "in circumstances where both cannot be represented or where one is in a natural position to serve both boards effectively." The two executives cited as specific examples attendance at committee meetings of the World Council and regional councils of churches "in far places," handling of business affairs that can be best administered from one or the other headquarters, and oversight by United Church Board for World Ministries personnel of United Christian Missionary Society missionary appointees during their orientation courses at Stony

Point, N. Y.

Headquarters staffs of the two agencies will "develop procedures to keep the planned merger of the boards in close relationship" with progress made in the Consultation on Church Union in which six denominations including the Disciples of Christ and the United Church of Christ are exploring the possibilities of uniting. In addition, the Disciples and the United Church are in union conversations independently.

The final step in the proposal unveiled recently will be "drawing up of plans for merging the two boards, probably in several alternative forms that will allow other overseas missionary agencies to join with us as the denominations we represent come closer to union," Dr. Sly and Dr. Carleton stated. "It goes without saying that we will support plans for the union of the churches of the nations in Asia, Africa, and Latin America," they added.

Dr. Carleton pointed out that the procedures being proposed to the Disciples and United Church agencies were the same as those used prior to the formation of the United Church of Christ to merge missionary bodies. The United Church is a union of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

"Formal union took place in 1961 with the adoption of a constitution," he said. "The two overseas missionary agencies — the Congregational American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and the Evangelical and Reformed Board of International Missions — began coordinating their work as early as 1957 in the same manner we are proposing for the Disciples and the United Church boards. By the time of actual merger in 1961, we had learned to live with each other and we had hammered out a smooth-running, efficient system of organization."

The current effort to unite work of the Disciples and the United Church was touched off by Dr. Sly in a speech before the annual meeting of the United Church Board last November. He called for the United Church body to take the lead in bringing together into one agency all overseas missionary work of the major American Protestant churches. He pointed out the necessity for an end to divisiveness in missionary activity if Christianity, which "even though large in numbers and important in influence is still a tiny minority in Asia and Africa," is to face up to "massive and rapid social

(Continued on Page 3)

American Bible Society Prepares 150th Anniversary Celebration For Next Year

Here is a thrilling story. As part of the celebration of its 150th Anniversary, the American Bible Society is preparing a full-scale history of its 15 decades of work. The book is being written by the writer of this article.

The inspiration for the American Bible Society came from The British and Foreign Bible Society, which dated from 1804. By its designation "foreign" The British and Foreign Bible Society included the entire human race in its vision. It hoped, as Africa, Asia, Australasia, and the Islands of the Pacific, then largely closed to the Occident, became accessible, and Latin America, dominated by the Roman Catholic Church, was opened for evangelical effort, to give the Word of God to all mankind.

Catching the vision from the British society, Evangelicals in the United States organized soon after 1804, local societies with the need of their fellow countrymen before them. However, because of difficult means of transportation and the great distances to be covered, and because of the impressive westward movement of settlers across the Appalachians, friends of the Bible were convinced that an effort more extensive than that of the local societies was needed.

Accordingly, on May 8, 1816, these friends assembled in the Garden Street Dutch Reformed Church in New York City and formed the American Bible Society, with not only their own country but all the world as their divinely appointed commission. They rose above denominational differences when, in the words of the constitution, they stated their "sole object" was "to encourage a wider circulation of the Holy Scriptures without note or comment." Laity and clergy cooperated, but the overall direction then, as later, was entrusted to laymen. Within a few days women were enlisted. Youth also rose to the challenge.

For the first half century, the ABS directed its primary efforts to the United States with its rapidly mounting population. Millions of people were moving westward across the mountains and establishing homes in expanses which had scarcely seen a white man. Predominantly Protestant by heredity, moving as they did from the older states where churches were influential, these settlers were in immi-

nent danger of losing their faith.

Despite phenomenal gains, by the close of the Society's first 50 years, less than one out of five of the population belonged to a church. Part of the challenge was the Indians. Scriptures in their languages were urgently needed. The Negro slaves must also be served. Through city, county, and state auxiliaries, efforts were made to reach all elements of the population. Most of the distribution was achieved through the auxiliaries and funds supplied to the national organization, which stimulated, supervised and encouraged the organization of auxiliaries.

In the second half century the population of the United States continued to mount. Following the Civil War, church membership fell. Political and business corruption, alcoholism, and blatant atheism swept the country. Yet the Society never faltered in its vision and efforts. As more of Asia, Africa, and the islands of the Pacific became accessible, sometimes blasted open by European cannon, the British and American Societies placed the Scriptures in the hands of the millions of non-Christians in those vast regions.

It would seem that the third half century might have brought a slowing down in the progress of the American Bible Society. Two world wars have swept the globe; the Gospel has seemed to be losing in Europe; Communism has captured what was formerly "holy Russia"; Latin America, still nominally Roman Catholic, is becoming secularized; the peoples of Africa, Asia and the fringing islands have shaken off Occidental "imperialism" and "colonialism," and might be expected to shrug off the Christian minorities won in the nineteenth century. Some observers even declare that all mankind is entering not merely a "post-Christian" but a "post-religious" era.

Yet, astonishingly, if the world is viewed as a whole, never has the Bible been so widely circulated or been so much in demand. Much of the burden has been borne by the American Bible Society. Its needs and supporting constituency have steeply mounted. Societies have developed in land after land, some aided by the American and British societies. Bible Societies the world over in the 150th Anniversary of the American Bible Society are

World Mission Boards Announce Cooperation

(Continued from Page 2)

change and the pressures of nationalism, Communism, burgeoning Eastern religions and the other forces ranged against it."

Dr. Carleton responded by offering to open talks between his agency and the Disciples society to "explore possible roads to union." He based his reply on an action of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ, March 3, 1964, advocating the merger of Protestant missionary work and calling upon national agencies of the church to foster joint work and even union with opposite numbers in other denominations.

Text of the vote was: "That this Executive Council in behalf of the United Church of Christ requests all churches now participating in the Consultation on Church Union to encourage their mission, service, and communication institutions to develop comprehensive plans of cooperation that in short order will in effect result in a unified program for the missionary thrust of all those churches.

"This Executive Council further urges the instrumentalities of the United Church of Christ to explore ways in which the United Church of Christ can assist this process, and to indicate to this Executive Council their readiness to proceed in areas which would have priority and in which first steps might profitably be taken."

The plan of union was developed in discussions between the staffs of the two boards, held in the Disciples headquarters in Indianapolis, April 7-9, 1965.

In their joint statement, Dr. Carleton and Dr. Sly emphasized the "woeful consequences" of sectarian divisions in the missionary enterprise.

"This is no time for sectarian discordances or denominational competition. There is infinite scope for the true ecumenical mission carried out by dedicated men and women who will go anywhere they are called to help in the human struggle for identity and dignity and to preach the Word of God across all barriers of culture, nationality and race," they concluded.

planning to meet not only the population explosion but also the literacy explosion under the slogan "God's Word for a New Age."

This is the exciting story which the volume now in preparation seeks to tell.

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Rev. Jas. H. Lightbourne, Jr. Editor

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Superintendent's Corner

Because so much attention at the annual meeting of the convention was focused on the proposal to form a United Church Conference, many of us are likely to forget the importance of what the Rev. George Nishimoto had to say to us.

Mr. Nishimoto is a member of the staff of the United Church Council for Church and Ministry. His particular assignment is that of Secretary for Church Vocations.

It is a part of his task to alert the ministers and churches of our denomination to the need of challenging more of our young people to enter full-time church vocations.

There is a definite need for more ministers, directors of Christian Education, missionaries, church musicians, administrators and others connected with the work of the church.

We should be particularly concerned about laying before our young people the ministry as a vocation. Certainly there is a sense in which young people are "Called by God" to the ministry. But it is also true that young people become alert to the "divine call" because the possibility has been placed before them in their contacts with the church and its various organizations.

All of us, as church members, are aware of the need for more qualified ministers to serve our churches. We are aware of the need for directors of religious education, for missionaries, for religious teachers and musicians.

What are we, as Christians, as parents, as church members doing to make sure our young people are aware of this need and are confronted with this great challenge?

The World Council Of Churches President's Pentecost Message

"When they were all together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you are to establish once again the sovereignty of Israel?" He answered, "It is not for you to know about dates or times, which the Father has set within his own control. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will bear witness for me in Jerusalem, and all over Judea and Samaria, and away to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:6-8.

These men have learned to know Jesus as Lord. They believe in His resurrection. They understand that his death was not defeat but victory over all that enslaves and destroys men. But they want to know what this is going to mean in practice. Does it mean the Kingdom of God now? Does it mean that we are on the winning side, and we shall forthwith see the enemies of God put to flight?

Living Torches in the Night. Jesus tells them plainly that God has not given us the timetable for his campaign. We simply do not know what are the limits of human life — for good and for ill. But God is going to give them something more important. He is going to give them His Spirit, who will empower them to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. When this Spirit comes, they will become the evidences to the whole world that Jesus reigns, and that evil is doomed and is on the way out.

That promise was fulfilled at Pentecost. In a mighty outpouring of divine power, these doubting disciples were transformed into living signs of the reign of Christ over the whole earth. Out from Jerusalem they went, reaching for the farthest corner of the world, a great movement of resistance against the established powers of evil, living torches to illuminate the night with certainty of a new day to come.

The church today is losing much of the power that it had when it was an accepted and honored part of the established order. Many Christians today live scattered in small groups, minorities without political power. In this, they are nearer to the Christians of the first century than to those of the 19th.

Power to Hope. But God has never cancelled the promise or withdrawn the gift he gave at Pentecost. That power is available to the church which

wants it enough to pay the price. The price is to be made utterly one with the Lord Jesus Christ — one with his humiliation in order to be one with his victory. The power is power to believe and to help others to believe, power to hope without wavering to the end, power to love to the limit, power to make peace, to work for justice and reconciliation between men. It is the power of the coming Kingdom, given to us now. It is the pledge of glory. And it is offered to all who ask.

We ask you, then, to join with us at this Pentecost season in praying the Lord to fill the whole church afresh with the power of his Spirit, so that it may be his witness to the ends of the earth.

The Presidents of the World Council of Churches

Dr. J. H. Oldham, Honorary President
Archbishop of Canterbury, London

Archbishop Iakovos, New York

Sir Francis Ibam, Nigeria

Principal David G. Moses, India

Dr. Martin Niemoller, West Germany
Charles Parlin, New York

Fred Field Goodsell Writes "Reflections"

A new book has come from the pen of Dr. Fred Field Goodsell, beloved former executive of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and denominational executive of the Congregational Christian Churches.

Called "REFLECTIONS", it comprises a devotional survey of the Old and New Testaments, the United Church's "Statement of Faith" and Fenelon's "Christian Perfection." It is designed for daily or periodic devotional reading and use.

Paperback bound and privately published by friends of Dr. Goodsell, the book was produced by the Hunter Press of Milford, New Hampshire.

Copies of the volume are available from the Boston office of the United Church Board for World Ministries, Room 708, 14 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. 02108. The cost is \$3.50 each.

Writes Carl H. Holdridge, treasurer of the Connecticut Conference: "I know of no better help to put us in the mood for meditation than "Reflections." Dr. Goodsell knows his Bible and lives it.

HERE AND THERE AMONG THE CHURCHES

Mrs. I. Alva Hart

Mrs. Ella May Boucher Hart, wife of the Rev. I. Alva Hart, died on March 27, 1965, at Thorsby, Alabama.

Mrs. Hart was born on March 9, 1873. She had celebrated her 92nd birthday earlier in the month.

Mr. and Mrs. Hart were married in 1903 in Galesborough, Illinois. They served in the Southeast Convention area for many years. At one time they were at Piedmont College, Demorest, Georgia. There followed a period of service in the churches of west Florida. They then went to Thorsby Institute, Thorsby, Alabama, and served there until the institute was closed.

They have been in retirement for several years. At the present time Mr. Hart is living at the Chilton County Nursing Home, Clanton, Alabama.

* * * *

Rev. Wendell E. Hines

Rev. Wendell E. Hines, pastor of the Brookmeade United Church, Nashville, Tennessee, has resigned at the church effective June 1.

Mr. Hines plans to leave the parish ministry and accept a position in business.

Mr. Hines became the pastor of the Brookmeade church last September. He previously had served the United Church in Texarkana, Arkansas.

Mr. and Mrs. Hines and their five children plan to continue to make their home in Nashville, Tenn.

* * * *

Rev. Arnold Slater

The Rev. Arnold Slater, pastor of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, will be a guest speaker on the annual program of the Pennsylvania Central Conference of the United Church of Christ. Mr. Slater will represent the Executive Council of the United Church, of which he is a member.

Mrs. Slater will accompany her husband on the trip to Pennsylvania.

* * * *

Ga.-SC-NW Fla. Summer Camp

The Junior High and Senior High Summer Camps for Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and Northwest Florida will be held at the Laura Walker State Park, Waycross, Ga., the week of August 1-7.

Registrations and requests for information should be sent to the Southeast Convention office.

Summer Camp Mission Leaders Are Announced

Miss Karin Elizabeth Dahle, the daughter of missionaries who have spent nearly 30 years under the United Church Board for World Ministries in Africa, is the guest mission leader for the Kentucky-Tennessee Junior High Summer Camp, June 13-19.

Karin has now completed her freshman year of college at Oberlin. Her parents are at home in the field in Rhodesia, but Karin has a retired grandmother in Illinois — Mrs. Arthur F. Christofersen, who spent 46 years in South Africa. Karin was born in the Republic of South Africa, where her education was initiated. She received three years of her high school education in an English boarding school and came to study in the states — for the first time — last fall.

The guest mission leader for the Senior High Camp in Kentucky-Tennessee is Mrs. Mary Ann Williams, a native of Mansfield, Ohio, now a member of the Union Congregational Church, West Palm Beach, Florida.

She is a former president of the National Fellowship of Congregational Christian Women and the Women's Fellowship of the International Congregational Council.

A graduate of the Cleveland School of Education, Chicago Training School for women, and Boston University School of Religious Education, she served as director of Christian Education of the First Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and assisted in Christian education for the Board of Home Missions of the former Congregational Christian Churches.

Mrs. Williams has visited Europe several times. In 1961 she directed the "Journey in Understanding" to the Near East, visiting mission stations and ministry to refugees. Mrs. Williams directed a visit of women from Europe visiting the United States in the fall of 1963. On September 10 she embarked on a trip around the world, visiting sights of interest and mission stations. She saw the mission of the church at work in Ghana, South Africa, Rhodesia, Bombay, and Maduri in India, Ceylon, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan and Hawaii.

The Rev. James E. Spicer, minister of the United Church, Oak Ridge, Tenn., is serving as dean of the Junior High Camp. Mrs. Marion M. Young, of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, is dean

The United Church Desk Calendar And Plan Book

Sample copies of the 1965-66 edition of the United Church Desk Calendar and Plan Book have been sent to all of the pastors of the convention.

This popular planning guide is used by more than 20,000 pastors and lay leaders of the United Church. It provides program planning suggestions and a directory of the national instrumentalities. Additional copies are \$1 from the Stewardship Council.

of the Senior High Camp.

Miss Helen Filz, a member of the United Church of Christ and a second grade public school teacher in Hilliard, Florida, will be the mission leader at the Alabama-Georgia Junior High Camp August 1-7 at Laura Walker State Park, Waycross, Ga.

Her background includes over thirteen years of service with the Winnebago Indians in Wisconsin. After four years as assistant parish worker at the mission in Black River Falls, Miss Filz's position was a primary teacher at the Indian School in Nellsville, Wisconsin. She has been in Florida for the past seven years.

Appleton, Wisconsin, is Miss Filz's birthplace, where she still retains membership in St. John's United Church of Christ. She is a graduate of Northwestern University and has done graduate study at the University of Colorado, Illinois, Illinois Western University, Appalachian State Teacher's College, and has even had three weeks of study at the Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, Taiwan. The last study was done as a part of a trip around the world in 1963 when she visited several areas of mission work of the United Church of Christ.

In 1962 Miss Filz served several weeks as a mission emphasis leader in camps in both Pennsylvania and New York. She is especially interested in working with arts, crafts and music, as well as teaching in the area of missions around the world.

Mrs. Carl N. Sanford of Atlanta and Mr. Bobby Jack Pemberton of East Tallassee are the co-deans of the Junior High Camp.

Rev. Robert Hendrix of Waycross and Rev. L. Floyd Carmack of LaGrange will lead the Senior High Camp. At the present time the mission leader for the Senior Camp is not known.

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New Staff Appointments Announced By United Church Organizations

Economic Opportunity

The Rev. Forrest N. Johnson of Riverdale, New York, has been appointed secretary for economic opportunity of the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ.

Mr. Johnson is assigned to the Council's campaign against poverty with special emphasis on housing and the economic aspects of racial discrimination. He will work with the denomination's regional and local organizations to develop new ways for churches to act on problems of the community.

Before his appointment to the Council, Mr. Johnson served for five years as minister of the Edgehill Community Church, Riverdale, New York. He had previously served as minister of Wayne Congregational Church, Wayne, Illinois; and of Lakeview Presbyterian Church.

Born in Chicago in 1927, Mr. Johnson graduated from the University of Illinois and McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. He studied at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1953-54 and has done additional work at the University of Chicago and at the New School for Social Research in New York.

Youth Ministry

The Rev. Ralph M. Moore, Jr., a 28-year-old Portland, Oregon, parish minister, has been elected a secretary for youth program of the Division of Christian Education of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries. He will serve under the Rev. Scott S. Libbey, chairman of the Youth Ministries staff.

Mr. Moore was advisor to the United Church of Christ young people's organization in Oregon from 1962 to 1964. He was a member of the first United Church of Christ Youth Forum held in Atlanta in 1963, and helped to plan and lead the second forum held the following year in Washington, D. C. In Portland he has been chaplain of the Multnomah County Juvenile Court and Home since 1961.

Actively interested in relationships between the church and the arts, he has a wide acquaintance among the artists community in Portland and has

fostered a number of programs in drama, music, and literature.

A native of Los Angeles, California, Mr. Moore did his undergraduate work at Stanford University where his major fields were literature, writing and drama. He was awarded a Rockefeller Brothers Theological Fellowship and, after graduation from Stanford in 1957, went on to Union Theological Seminary in New York.

While at Union he served as associate minister of the Knight Congregational Church, Grand View, Idaho. He received a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1961.

Council for Higher Education

The Rev. Paul H. Sherry, minister of the Community United Church of Christ, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey, has been appointed to the national staff of the Division of Higher Education of the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries.

In his new post Mr. Sherry will be administrative secretary of the denomination's Council for Higher Education Cooperative College Registry, an inter-Cooperative College Registry, an inter-denominational organization which recruits teachers for church-related colleges from graduate schools and professional societies.

A native of Tamaqua, Pennsylvania, he was graduated in 1955 from Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., and in 1958 from Union Theological Seminary, New York, where he is currently working toward a doctorate in Systematic Theology.

News Information Secretary

Kenneth L. Olsen, night city editor of the Trenton, N. J. EVENING TIMES, has been elected news information secretary on the national staff of the Stewardship Council of the United Church of Christ.

Before joining the staff of the Evening Times in 1963 Mr. Olsen was editor of the Delaware Valley Advance, Langhorne, Pennsylvania, for two years.

Born in Philadelphia in 1932, Mr. Olsen is a graduate of Rider College, Trenton, New Jersey, with a degree in Journalism. He and his wife have two sons. They live in Langhorne, Pa.

Ministerial Changes In The Convention

Rev. Bill J. Traylor

Rev. and Mrs. Bill J. Traylor have moved from East Tallassee, Alabama, to near Ramseur, North Carolina.

Mr. Traylor, who has served the Congregational Christian Church in East Tallassee for the past two years, will serve the Pleasant Ridge and Spoon's Chapel United Churches of Christ. The parsonage is located near the Pleasant Ridge Church.

While a student at Southern Union College, Mr. Traylor served the Noon Day Church, Wedowee, Alabama. He then accepted a call to the Bethel and Concord Churches near Burlington, N. C.

Mr. Traylor was ordained by the Central Alabama Association at services held at the East Tallassee Church in 1964.

The Traylor's have two children — Regina, age 9, and Stephen, age 12.

The family will be missed from East Tallassee and from the Southeast Convention.

Rev. John W. Wilder

The Rev. John W. Wilder has submitted his resignation as pastor of the Mt. Olive Church, Tallassee, Alabama, to become the pastor of the Mt. Zion United Church of Christ, Mebane, N. C.

Mr. Wilder entered the ministry and was called to the Mt. Olive Church in 1961. While serving the church he has completed his education at Huntingdon College, Montgomery, Alabama. He will graduate this month.

Mr. Wilder plans to enter the Duke Divinity School and will continue his ministerial education while serving the church.

Licensed by the Central Association when he began his ministry, Mr. Wilder was ordained by the association in December of 1964 at the Mt. Olive Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilder and their daughter will be moving to North Carolina in early July.

Rev. Thomas Isbell

Rev. Thomas Isbell has resigned as minister of the Meansville, Ga., Church. He has served the church on a part-time basis for several years. Dr. Isbell is a member of the faculty of Brenau College, Gainesville, Ga.